Income from Private Cable Operators

†4150. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total income earned by Government from various private cable network organisations in the country;

(b) whether Government have any monitoring agency to look into and inspect the *modus operandi* and monthly income of big cable network companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons for not auditing the accounts of such big cable network companies and not monitoring the same; and

(e) the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) It has been informed by the Department of Revenue in the Ministry of Finance that the total income earned by Government from various private cable network organisations in the country is not centrally maintained. However, as per the income tax returns, the assessee is required to declare the annual income only.

(d) and (e) As per section 44AB of the Income Tax Act, 1961, every person carrying on business, including a cable operator, is required to get its accounts audited by an accountant before the specified date, if its total sales, turnover or gross receipts in business exceed Rs. 40 lakh in any previous year. Whenever any incidence of suppression of income or avoidance of tax by any person, including cable TV operators, comes to the notice of the Government, appropriate action as deemed fit under the law is taken.

Audit of income of cable TV Operators

4151. Dr. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any agency to audit the income of Cable TV Operators;

(b) if so, the total income tax collected from them during 2000-2001; and

(c) if not, whether Government would propose for such an audit?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi